Oil spillage in Arabian sea

@*250. SHRI PRITHIBI MAJHI:

SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware about a major oil spillage which took place in the Arabian sea as reported in the Hindustan Times of 6th July, 1989;

(b) if so, whether the slick was moving in the direction of Bombay shoreline; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof and what steps are being contemplated in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) to (c) The small spill of two tonnes leaked near the Bombay Coast was noticed and controlled. The big spill of 5500 tonnes occurred at the place of accident 725 nautical miles away has not reached the Bombay Coast.

Various steps taken by the Government in this regard are as follows:

(i) The Indian Coast Guard went into action immediately assisted by the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board;

(ii) A high level meeting was held in Bombay by the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India, to chalk out the strategies to be followed;

(iii) Regional Contingency Committee which already functions under the Indian Coast Guard were directed to locate the oil slick and also to implement the action plan with them;

(iv) National Remote Sensing Agency, Hyderabad, was also assigned the task of locating the oil slick through the satellite;

(v) National Institute of Oceanography's vessel collected the samples to study the effects on marine life; and

(vi) The vigil is being maintained, though the slick has not been located and is suspected to have disintegrated and carried south -south east by the wind and ocean currents.

@Previously Starred Question 90, transferred from the 24th July, 1989.

Non-implementation of DRI scheme by State Bank of Indore

*251. SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the State Bank of Indore has not fully implemented the Differential Rate of Interest (DRI) Scheme in all its branches;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government have taken any action against the officers of the Bank for not properly implementing the Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Under the existing instructions, banks are required to land atleast 1 per cent of their aggregate advances as at the end of previous year under Differential Rate of Interest (DRI) Scheme. Further, banks are to ensure that not less than 2/3rd of their advances under the scheme are routed through their rural and semi-urban branches and not less than 40 per cent of bank credit under the Scheme flows to Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe beneficiaries. The State Bank of Indore has reported that it has fully attained the stipulated targets and sub-targets for the Bank as a whole as laid down under the Scheme.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.